



Missouri Department of dnr.mo.gov

# NATURAL RESOURCES

Michael L. Parson, Governor

Carol S. Comer, Director

## MEMORANDUM

2019-006

DATE: August 7, 2018

TO: All Soil and Water Conservation Districts

FROM: *CM* Colleen Meredith, Director *BW*  
Soil and Water Conservation Program

SUBJECT: New DWC-02 Water Impoundment Reservoir Cleanout Practice, Variances to Commission Policies and Frequently Asked Questions Document in Response to Executive Order 18-05

The Soil and Water Districts Commission at their July 27, 2018, and August 2, 2018, meeting provided variances to some practice policies in response to drought conditions and approved a new practice. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document (<https://bit.ly/2M9hDxz>) was created to assist with interpretation of the variances and the new practice policy.

### **New DWC-02 Water Impoundment Reservoir Cleanout Practice**

The new practice is the DWC-02 Water Impoundment Reservoir Cleanout Practice and was approved at the August 2, 2018, meeting.

Commission Motion July 27, 2018:

- *Implement a pond cleanout program. The sediment in the pond must be completely removed. A flat rate of \$1,000 per half acre (up to 2 acres) will be paid. The maximum cost-share provided will be \$4,000 regardless of the size of the pond. A 10-year maintenance commitment for the pond will be reinstated from the date of payment. This cleanout program is available only for state cost-share ponds currently under maintenance and those out of maintenance.*

Commission Motion August 2, 2018:

- *Approve the DWC-02 Pond Cleanout Practice for drought counties affected by Executive Order 18-05. Allow program office staff, working with NRCS, to make changes as needed for technical and administrative issues that may need to be worked out as the drought program is implemented.*

The practice policy document is available at (<https://bit.ly/2vrV65w>). In addition, some questions and answers which apply to this practice are in the FAQ document. A few key items for the new practice are: the practice is only available in D2 or higher drought designated



counties; only available on state cost-shared pond; the maximum for the cleanout part of the practice is \$4,000; and fence and water supply components are available as needed and do not fall under the \$4,000 limit.

### **Board Requirements**

Commission Motion July 27, 2018:

- *Require Soil and Water Conservation Districts to move landowners completing "drought" practices to the top of waiting lists (the drought practices are those listed below and will only be available in the D2 and D3 drought designated counties).*

### **Variance to Grazing Practices - Water Development and Distribution, and Grazing School**

Commission Motion on August 2, 2018, to Amend Motion from July 27, 2018:

- *Amend the motion from the July 27, 2018, meeting to strike out "contract approval" and replace it with "contract payment." Defer the Grazing School Requirement for 12 months after ~~contract approval~~ contract payment for the Water Development (DSP 3.1) and Water Distribution (DSP 3.2) Grazing System practices. The Water Development contracts will consist only of pipeline from the water source, and one watering tank. The rest of the system can be designed and installed after the landowner has completed an approved grazing school. It is important that producers understand managed grazing prior to designing their systems.*

### **Variance to Cover Crop Practice – Lifetime Maximum and Haying**

Commission Motion on August 2, 2018 to Amend Motion from July 27, 2018:

- *Amend the motion from the July 27, 2018, meeting to strike out the sentence below. A variance will be provided to raise the N340 Cover Crop Practice maximum to \$30,000 from the current \$20,000 lifetime limit, and to allow cover crops to be hayed at termination to provide additional forage. Landowners over the \$20,000 maximum will receive \$30 per acre for any additional acres enrolled. ~~The seeding rates and mixtures the Natural Resources Conservation Service developed for their drought program must be used.~~ Other requirements in the policy still apply.*

The NRCS seed mixes are highly encouraged for landowners that plan to hay or graze their cropland as they are formulated for that purpose.

Commission Motion on August 2, 2018:

- *Allow haying at termination for all cover crop practices statewide to allow for increased forage capacity in the state due to drought, and require districts in the D2 and higher drought areas to move only cover crop contracts that are intended to be used for haying*

*and grazing up on their waiting lists, and manage other cover crop practices within their regular workload.*

**Variance to Livestock Exclusion Requirements**

Commission Motion August 2, 2018:

- *Extend the deadline for the variance that was approved at the June 13, 2018, meeting to allow livestock grazing in exclusion areas for the DFR-5 Woodland Protection Through Livestock Exclusion, DWC-1 Water Impoundment Reservoir, N386 Field Border, N393 Filter Strip, N472 Livestock Exclusion, and WQ10 Stream Protection practices from September 1, 2018 to December 1, 2018.*

See Memo 2018-010 for more information.

If you have any questions, please contact your district coordinator. Thank you.

CM:djs